

Nebraska Agri-Facts

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Dear producers and other data users:

Information contained herein is the result of mail, phone and personal interview surveys conducted during the past few weeks. Special recognition and appreciation are extended to all producers and agribusinesses who provided data making these reports possible.

William G. Hamlin
State Statistician

Nebraska Cattle on Feed Up 1 Percent

Nebraska feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more head contained 2.14 million cattle on feed on November 1, up 1 percent from last year but 3 percent below November 1, 2001. Placements of cattle into feedlots during October totaled 640,000 head, up 23 percent from last year and 8 percent above 2001. Fed cattle marketings for the month of October totaled 320,000 head, down 11 percent from last year and 3 percent below 2001. Other disappearance during October totaled 10,000 head compared with 10,000 head during October 2002 and 10,000 head during October 2001.

U.S. Cattle on Feed Up 3 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.0 million head on November 1, 2003. The inventory was 3 percent above November 1, 2002 but 7 percent below November 1, 2001. Placements in feedlots during October totaled 2.78 million, 16 percent above 2002 and 3 percent above 2001. Marketings of fed cattle during October totaled 1.86 million, 6 percent below 2002 and 2 percent below 2001. Other disappearance totaled 101,000 during October, 20 percent above 2002 and 49 percent above 2001.

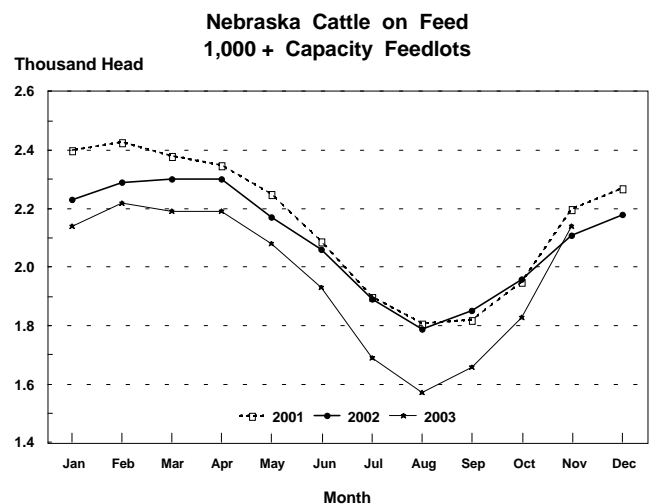
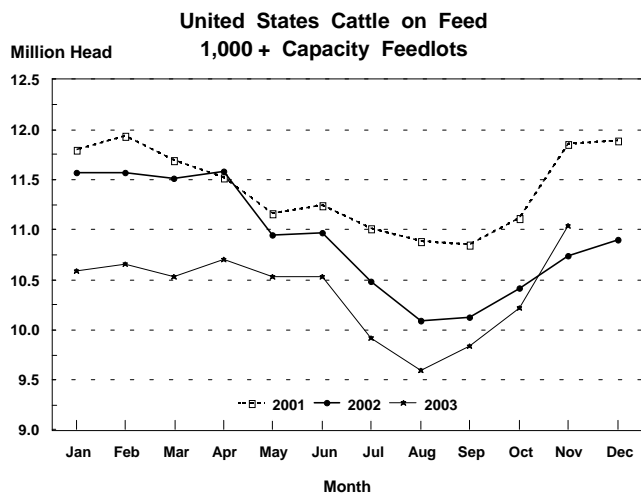
Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, by Month, State, and United States, 2002-2003

| STATE | November 1 Number on Feed ¹ | | | October Placements | | | October Marketings | | | October Other Disappearance ² | | |
|--------------|---|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------|----------------------------|---|---------|----------------------------|
| | 2002 | 2003 | <u>2003</u> <u>2002</u> | 2002 | 2003 | <u>2003</u> <u>2002</u> | 2002 | 2003 | <u>2003</u> <u>2002</u> | 2002 | 2003 | <u>2003</u> <u>2002</u> |
| | 1,000 Head | Percent | | 1,000 Head | Percent | | 1,000 Head | Percent | | 1,000 Head | Percent | |
| Arizona | 290 | 278 | 96 | 28 | 26 | 93 | 25 | 22 | 88 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| California | 490 | 495 | 101 | 60 | 68 | 113 | 58 | 54 | 93 | 7 | 4 | 57 |
| Colorado | 1,060 | 1,050 | 99 | 250 | 270 | 108 | 210 | 160 | 76 | 10 | 10 | 100 |
| Idaho | 295 | 295 | 100 | 77 | 88 | 114 | 61 | 60 | 98 | 1 | 3 | 300 |
| Iowa | 335 | 350 | 104 | 95 | 113 | 119 | 73 | 72 | 99 | 2 | 1 | 50 |
| Kansas | 2,300 | 2,430 | 106 | 455 | 570 | 125 | 410 | 410 | 100 | 25 | 30 | 120 |
| Nebraska | 2,110 | 2,140 | 101 | 520 | 640 | 123 | 360 | 320 | 89 | 10 | 10 | 100 |
| New Mexico | 117 | 118 | 101 | 22 | 19 | 86 | 16 | 20 | 125 | 2 | 4 | 200 |
| Oklahoma | 340 | 350 | 103 | 75 | 78 | 104 | 63 | 74 | 117 | 2 | 4 | 200 |
| South Dakota | 170 | 177 | 104 | 57 | 68 | 119 | 36 | 34 | 94 | 1 | 2 | 200 |
| Texas | 2,730 | 2,840 | 104 | 600 | 680 | 113 | 570 | 530 | 93 | 20 | 30 | 150 |
| Washington | 185 | 195 | 105 | 49 | 51 | 104 | 33 | 45 | 136 | 1 | 1 | 100 |
| Other States | 320 | 320 | 100 | 101 | 110 | 109 | 64 | 54 | 84 | 2 | 1 | 50 |
| U.S. | 10,742 | 11,038 | 103 | 2,389 | 2,781 | 116 | 1,979 | 1,855 | 94 | 84 | 101 | 120 |

¹Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

²Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed November 21, 2003



Cattle on Feed: Number Placed on Feed By Weight Group, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots, By Month, State, and United States, 2002-2003

| State | During October | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-------|---------|------|---------|------|----------|------|-------|-------|
| | Under 600 | | 600-699 | | 700-799 | | 800 Plus | | Total | |
| | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| | <i>1,000 Head</i> | | | | | | | | | |
| Colorado | 94 | 88 | 49 | 69 | 56 | 54 | 51 | 59 | 250 | 270 |
| Kansas | 120 | 185 | 145 | 170 | 120 | 130 | 70 | 85 | 455 | 570 |
| Nebraska | 200 | 245 | 134 | 187 | 87 | 88 | 99 | 120 | 520 | 640 |
| Texas | 175 | 250 | 200 | 235 | 165 | 145 | 60 | 50 | 600 | 680 |
| Other States | 220 | 255 | 110 | 135 | 94 | 91 | 140 | 140 | 564 | 621 |
| U.S. | 809 | 1,023 | 638 | 796 | 522 | 508 | 420 | 454 | 2,389 | 2,781 |

Source: USDA NASS Cattle on Feed November 21, 2003

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

October 2003 number slaughtered and changes from last year and last month are shown below. October 2002 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. October 2003 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

Livestock Slaughter: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, October 2003 with Comparisons

| Item | Total ¹ | Oct. 2003 Percent of | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| | | Oct. 2002 | Sep. 2003 |
| Nebraska | <i>1,000 Head</i> | | |
| Cattle, head | 628.1 | 87 | 92 |
| Hogs, head | 665.8 | 104 | 113 |
| Red Meat, mil. lbs. | 616.8 | 87 | 97 |
| United States | | | |
| Cattle, head | 3,002.6 | 92 | 96 |
| Calves, head | 87.5 | 87 | 106 |
| Hogs, head | 9,638.7 | 103 | 113 |
| Sheep & Lambs, head | 265.5 | 88 | 104 |
| Red Meat, mil, lbs. | 4,154.0 | 95 | 104 |

¹ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

Source: USDA NASS Livestock Slaughter, November 21, 2003.

Stocks in Cold Storage: By Commodity, United States, October 2003 with Comparisons

| Commodity | Stocks | Oct. 2003 Percent of | |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| | | Oct. 2002 | Sep. 2003 |
| 1,000 Lbs. | | | |
| Total red meats | 857,859 | 83 | 103 |
| Beef | 375,930 | 72 | 99 |
| Pork | 465,331 | 95 | 107 |
| Poultry | 1,178,564 | 79 | 94 |
| Turkey | 572,360 | 92 | 88 |
| Chicken | 603,471 | 70 | 100 |

Source: USDA NASS Cold Storage, November 20, 2003.

Poultry: Layers and Eggs, Nebraska and United States, October 2003 with Comparisons

| Item | 2002 | 2003 | 2003/2002 |
|---------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| <i>Millions</i> | | | |
| <i>Percent</i> | | | |
| Number of Layers | | | |
| Nebraska | 11.7 | 11.8 | 101 |
| 30 States | 316.7 | 310.9 | 98 |
| United States | 338.2 | 333.3 | 99 |
| Eggs Produced | | | |
| Nebraska | 262 | 271 | 103 |
| 30 States | 6,938 | 6,900 | 99 |
| United States | 7,412 | 7,392 | 100 |
| Chickens Hatched, October | | | |
| United States | | | |
| Egg-type | 32.1 | 35.0 | 109 |
| Broiler | 720.6 | 734.8 | 102 |

Source: USDA NASS Chicken and Eggs, November 21, 2003.

Milk Cows and Production: By Month, 20 Selected States, 2002-2003¹

| Month | Milk Cows ² | | Milk per Cow ³ | | Milk Production ³ | | |
|-----------|------------------------|-------|---------------------------|-------|------------------------------|--------|-------------------|
| | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2003 as % of 2002 |
| | <i>Thousands</i> | | <i>Pounds</i> | | <i>Million pounds</i> | | <i>Percent</i> |
| January | 7,749 | 7,807 | 1,591 | 1,607 | 12,327 | 12,548 | 102 |
| February | 7,744 | 7,810 | 1,472 | 1,484 | 11,401 | 11,588 | 102 |
| March | 7,745 | 7,811 | 1,654 | 1,660 | 12,810 | 12,969 | 101 |
| April | 7,758 | 7,798 | 1,621 | 1,622 | 12,575 | 12,645 | 101 |
| May | 7,769 | 7,783 | 1,678 | 1,668 | 13,039 | 12,983 | 100 |
| June | 7,782 | 7,775 | 1,587 | 1,590 | 12,348 | 12,366 | 100 |
| July | 7,781 | 7,765 | 1,578 | 1,590 | 12,281 | 12,345 | 101 |
| August | 7,785 | 7,750 | 1,570 | 1,563 | 12,223 | 12,110 | 99 |
| September | 7,781 | 7,744 | 1,497 | 1,503 | 11,648 | 11,643 | 100 |
| October | 7,789 | 7,719 | 1,539 | 1,550 | 11,991 | 11,965 | 100 |
| November | 7,792 | | 1,496 | | 11,657 | | |
| December | 7,801 | | 1,575 | | 12,290 | | |
| Annual | 7,773 | | 18,858 | | 146,590 | | |

¹ 2003 revised. ²Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ³Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Source: USDA NASS Milk Production, November 17, 2003.

Farm Labor: Number and Wage Rates for Type of Workers and All Hired Workers, Selected Regions and United States, October 6-12, 2002 & October 12-18, 2003 ¹

| Region ² | Hired Workers | | Wage Rates | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------|-------------------|------|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | | All Hired Workers | | Type of work | | | | | |
| | 2002 | 2003 | | | Field | | Livestock | | Field & Livestock | |
| | <i>Thousands</i> | | | | <i>2002</i> | <i>2003</i> | <i>2002</i> | <i>2003</i> | <i>2002</i> | <i>2003</i> |
| | | | | | <i>Dollars Per Hour</i> | | | | | |
| Lake | 64 | 72 | 9.73 | 9.70 | 9.28 | 9.25 | 9.11 | 9.11 | 9.21 | 9.20 |
| Cornbelt I | 42 | 45 | 8.90 | 9.34 | 8.49 | 8.76 | 8.89 | 9.67 | 8.54 | 8.91 |
| Cornbelt II | 25 | 26 | 8.81 | 9.30 | 8.69 | 8.62 | 8.30 | 9.83 | 8.59 | 8.87 |
| Northern Plains | 34 | 35 | 9.32 | 9.31 | 9.01 | 9.29 | 9.03 | 8.59 | 9.02 | 9.07 |
| Southern Plains | 58 | 54 | 7.57 | 8.01 | 7.05 | 7.12 | 7.32 | 7.70 | 7.18 | 7.39 |
| Mountain I | 30 | 33 | 8.13 | 8.24 | 7.84 | 7.80 | 7.95 | 8.05 | 7.89 | 7.93 |
| Mountain II | 16 | 20 | 8.79 | 8.97 | 8.31 | 8.11 | 8.79 | 8.12 | 8.50 | 8.11 |
| United States | 940 | 891 | 8.95 | 9.05 | 8.34 | 8.42 | 8.42 | 8.64 | 8.36 | 8.47 |

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, November 21, 2003.

Hired Workers: Annual Average Wage Rates, Selected States and United States, 2002 - 2003 ^{1 2}

| State | All Hired | | Field | | Field & Livestock | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|-------|------|-------------------|------|
| | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 | 2002 | 2003 |
| | <i>Dollars per hour</i> | | | | | |
| Colorado | 8.57 | 9.13 | 7.90 | 8.27 | 8.07 | 8.42 |
| Illinois | 9.67 | 9.88 | 8.63 | 9.04 | 8.94 | 9.27 |
| Indiana | 9.19 | 9.73 | 8.92 | 8.95 | 8.76 | 9.00 |
| Iowa | 9.67 | 10.34 | 8.47 | 9.74 | 9.30 | 9.87 |
| Kansas | 9.63 | 9.54 | 8.85 | 8.73 | 8.64 | 8.97 |
| Michigan | 9.62 | 9.74 | 8.62 | 8.42 | 8.66 | 8.86 |
| Minnesota | 9.73 | 10.23 | 9.76 | 9.80 | 9.12 | 9.56 |
| Missouri | 8.68 | 9.11 | 8.35 | 8.67 | 8.33 | 8.70 |
| Nebraska | 8.62 | 8.67 | 8.05 | 8.28 | 8.34 | 8.39 |
| North Dakota | 9.22 | 9.49 | 9.28 | 9.32 | 9.16 | 9.32 |
| South Dakota | 8.66 | 9.23 | 8.11 | 8.46 | 8.22 | 8.94 |
| Wyoming | 7.55 | 7.17 | 7.05 | 6.70 | 6.96 | 6.59 |
| United States ³ | 8.81 | 9.08 | 8.12 | 8.31 | 8.18 | 8.42 |

¹ Excludes agricultural service workers. ² Annual rates are averages of the wage rates for each survey week weighted by the number of hours worked during the week. The annual average is based on data collected for January, April, July, and October. ³ Excludes Alaska.

Source: USDA NASS Farm Labor, November 21, 2003.

Prices Received By Farmers

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in November is 117, based on 1990-92=100, 4 points (3.5 percent) above the October index. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, corn, soybeans, and wheat. Lower prices were received for cotton, hogs, and milk. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of all milk, cotton, cattle, and cottonseed

offset decreased marketings of peanuts, soybeans, sunflowers, and potatoes.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 20 points (20.6 percent) from November 2002. The Food Commodities Index increased 5 points (4.3 percent) above last month to 121, and is 25 points (26.0 percent) above November 2002. This index is the highest since records began in 1975.

Prices Received: By Commodity, Nebraska and United States, Preliminary November 2003 with Comparisons

| Commodity | Unit | Nebraska | | | United States | | | | |
|------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| | | November 2002 ¹ | October 2003 ¹ | November 15, 2003 | November 2002 ² | October 2003 ¹ | November 15, 2003 | % of Parity | Parity Price ² |
| Wheat | Bushels | \$ 4.26 | \$ 3.27 | \$ 3.50 | \$ 4.25 | \$ 3.45 | \$ 3.69 | 38 | \$ 9.82 |
| Corn | Bushels | 2.37 | 2.16 | 2.30 | 2.28 | 2.12 | 2.24 | 33 | 6.71 |
| Oats | Bushels | 2.33 | 1.39 | 1.40 | 1.91 | 1.44 | 1.37 | 33 | 4.19 |
| Grain Sorghum | Cwt. | 4.43 | 3.88 | 4.15 | 4.40 | 3.99 | 4.09 | 36 | 11.40 |
| Soybeans | Bushels | 5.41 | 6.47 | 7.40 | 5.46 | 6.61 | 7.37 | 50 | 14.70 |
| Hay, All, Baled | Ton | 89.00 | 56.00 | 55.00 | 93.20 | 84.40 | 80.70 | | |
| Alfalfa, Baled | Ton | 89.00 | 57.00 | 56.00 | 101.00 | 88.80 | 88.00 | | |
| Other, Baled | Ton | 86.00 | 51.00 | 50.00 | 73.90 | 71.40 | 64.90 | | |
| Dry Edible Beans | Cwt. | 18.00 | 16.50 | 15.20 | 15.90 | 17.80 | 18.40 | 36 | 51.30 |
| Hogs | Cwt. | 31.00 | 39.00 | 38.60 | 27.80 | 36.80 | 34.80 | 33 | 104.00 |
| Barrows & Gilts | Cwt. | 31.20 | 39.20 | 38.80 | 28.10 | 37.10 | 35.00 | | |
| Sows | Cwt. | 22.50 | 31.30 | 30.30 | 20.80 | 30.90 | 30.00 | | |
| Beef Cattle | Cwt. | 70.30 | 99.40 | 101.00 | 67.30 | 92.00 | 93.20 | 57 | 163.00 |
| Steers & Heifers | Cwt. | 71.50 | 101.00 | 103.00 | 71.90 | 97.80 | 99.70 | | |
| Cows | Cwt. | 32.00 | 46.50 | 48.00 | 33.00 | 44.90 | 46.70 | | |
| Calves | Cwt. | 95.20 | 117.00 | 119.00 | 91.90 | 113.00 | 112.00 | 51 | 219.00 |
| Sheep | Cwt. | 33.30 | 35.00 | | 31.30 | 34.80 | | | 80.30 |
| Lambs | Cwt. | 81.80 | 90.00 | | 84.00 | 96.90 | | | 188.00 |

¹ Entire month average except hay.

² Parity price based on data for November 2003.

Source: USDA NASS Agricultural Prices, November 28, 2003.

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